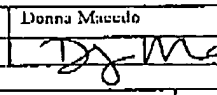
CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION			
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile filed under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.6(d) and 1.8(a)(1)(b) addressed to: P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria VA 22313-1450 on this date: December 19, 2003 Facsimile No.: 703-872-9306			
Typed or Printed Name	Donna Macedo		
Signature		Date	12/19/03

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.111		
Address to: Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450	Application Number Confirmation Number	09/884,792 4369
	Attorney Docket Number	10010342-1
	Filing Date	June 19, 2001
	First Named Inventor	Schembri
	Examiner	Ludlow
	Group Art	1743
	Title *Devices for Performing Array Hybridization Assays and Methods of Using the Same*	

Sir:

This communication is responsive to the Office Action dated October 6, 2003, for which a three-month period for response was given making this response due on or before January 6, 2003. Accordingly, this response is timely filed. In view of the amendments and remarks set forth below, reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

Please replace paragraph [0079] with the following new paragraph:

Figure 5 illustrates yet another embodiment of the present invention wherein a plurality of samples can be introduced into the chamber, e.g., simultaneously, and which samples can then remain segregated from other sample. In the embodiment illustrated by Fig. ~~5~~ 6, the array placement area 104 includes grooves or micro-channels 100 which define individual, separate, discrete array locations 102, herein shown as ten discrete locations, but in many embodiments there may be greater or fewer than ten discrete locations. Regardless of the number of locations, grooves 100 define discrete locations 102, where such locations substantially correspond or align with respective arrays on a substrate (not shown). For example, in this particular embodiment, the ten discrete array locations 102 would align with ten arrays on a substrate. The grooves 100 serve to disrupt the capillary action between different arrays on a substrate, thereby preventing sample introduced to one array location on a substrate from wicking or moving by capillary action to another array location on the substrate. Accordingly, each array location 102 has a respective fluid port 106 for sample introduction and or other for the ingress of other fluids. In certain embodiments fluid is removed from the chamber by fluid exit port 108 or, alternatively, each array location 102 may also include a separate fluid egress port (not show) or may remove fluid through respective fluid ingress ports 106. As described above for other embodiments, at least one mixing element (not shown) may also be operatively associated with the discrete location 102.

Please replace paragraph [0083] with the following new paragraph:

An example of such a hybridization system is shown in Figure ~~6~~ 5, as described above. Figure 5 illustrates a hybridization system having a hybridization station 40, fluid reservoirs 42 and 42A, waste reservoir 43 and at least one hybridization chamber 4.